

TO OUR PHILADELPHIA SUBSCRIBERS.—Those of our subscribers in Philadelphia who have heretofore received their paper of Mr. W. Alcorn, are requested to leave their names and address with Mr. J. T. Bates, at his periodical stand near the Exchange, who will hereafter supply them with the paper.

Single copies of the Daily and Weekly may also be had of Mr. Bates.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23 1854.

PUBLIC SENTIMENT AT THE NORTH.

The newspaper advocating the Nebraska Bill continues to misrepresent the state of public opinion at the North. They say that opposition to the measure is due to the fidelity to Abolitionists; that the masses of the Northern People are comparatively unmoved; that the meetings got up are manufactured by Abolitionists and the materials presented to Congress, the work of the Abolition confederates in that body.

Abolitionists must be a formidable party, to exert an influence so all-prevailing over public sentiment in the North. According to these newspapers, the Legislatures of Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, and Wisconsin, have fallen under their control; all the Whig presses, conservative and liberal, all the great denominational journals, hitherto staunch opponents of the Anti-Slavery agitation, and supporters of the policy of 1850, all the Democratic papers, independent of Federal patronage, have become allies of the Abolitionists; the three thousand negroes of New England who have signed a memorial to Congress against the Repeal Bill, and the one hundred and fifty clergymen of New York city, headed by Bishop Wauchope, Dr. Tyng, Bedford, and Ashton, who have just united in a similar movement, are Abolitionists; the scientific men of the North, represented by such men as Professor Silliman and Professor Thatcher of Yale College, hitherto strangers to the political world, have joined the ranks of the Abolitionists; the German citizens in New York, Cleveland, Detroit, Cincinnati, and all over the country, so long accustomed to act with the so-called Democratic Party, have all suddenly become Abolitionists.

It is ridiculous to persist in this game of misrepresentation. None before was the head of the North and West more deeply moved upon any Question. Throughout the controversies of 1848 and 1850, there was nothing like the unanimity and deep feeling among the masses of the people of the free States that there is now.

Let members of Congress be assured of this fact. Some, we know, are deceived. They depend for information upon such papers as the Boston Post and Ohio Statesman, or the organ of the Administration and of the Slave Power in Washington; or they are surrounded by demagogues and wire-walkers from the districts they represent, who, acting under instructions from headquarters, fill their ears with lying reports of the condition of things at home.

We have not space in our columns for the report of the public meetings in progress throughout the country. We hope those concerned in them will be satisfied with the publication of the accounts of their proceedings in the newspaper. Let them send them to members of Congress and to the President.

It has been suggested that the People in the several districts represented in Congress, by men supposed to be favorable to the Bill, hold regular Conventions, with a view to instructing such representatives, to the views and will of their constituents. We hope it may be done. The President, having committed himself to the measure, is acting in requisition every means to secure support in the House; and nothing but the will of the People, plainly, emphatically, and promptly expressed, can counteract his influence.

Meantime, we transfer to our columns a brief notice, from the New York Evening Post, of some of the more prominent public demonstrations of the last week:

The Voice of the North against the Nebraska Bill.—In the cities of Providence, on the 7th inst., to protest against the passage of the Nebraska bill, was organized the United States Senator from Rhode Island, as Chairman of the Committee of the Bar of the United States Circuit Court, Ex-Governor Anthony, and others, Vice President.

A series of strong resolutions was adopted, which were offered by Professor Caswell, of Brown University.

The legal profession was represented among the speakers of the occasion, by John Whipple and Abraham Payne, and the pulpit by Rev. Messrs. Wayland, Hall, and Walcott. President Lincoln, who was on the hill before the hall, was welcomed, "spared no pains to make him feel at home." The hall was crowded, and the weather was cold, but the hall was present. Mr. Charles L. English presided, and a list of resolutions was adopted with enthusiasm; one of them, we presume, had special reference to the recent removal of the Senator from Virginia.

"That if Congress, in framing the organic law of the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska, shall refuse to provide for the legal and impartial protection of the human rights, under the guarantee of leaving them to the people to be decided by the accidental preponderance of one class of emigration or another, at the first occupation of the soil, such removal of the Senator from Virginia, as committed to their hands by the Constitution, and every individual who, having been sent to Congress by a free-labor constituency, shall side with him by his influence, his vote, or his voice, in any way, in any way, to his constituents, and eight hundred men were present.

The resolutions were adopted by speech of James J. Biddle, Professor Thatcher and Silliman, senior, of Yale College; Rev. Dr. Taylor, and Mr. Follett.

Professor Follett's answer to the call of the audience, made a brief address:

"His life, so far, was commenced in the midst of the American Revolution, and he remembered, as an observer, the critical events of American history since that epoch. He never before appeared on the political stage, but rather in view of their relations to the Administration, or to the party organization, or to local questions.

What was the result? Just what might have been expected. The Administration men carried the State, threw a majority into the Legislature, which seemed to them supremacy, and that majority deemed it far more important to sustain the Administration, at Washington, than to adhere faithfully to the Anti-Slavery resolves of the Party, which it knew represented the public sentiment of the State.

This is the key to the proceedings of the Legislature in regard to the Nebraska bill.

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but the Union will be dissolved if this thing do, and they will do it. I feel in all kindness to the South—but should the necessity arise, I feel like my friend, Dr. Taylor, that I could not be in the council." [Loud applause.]

DISFRANCHISEMENT AND PROSCRIPTION OF ALIENS.

Had we not always steadfastly opposed the principles of Native Americanism, and insisted upon the adoption of the most liberal policy towards foreign immigrants, we might be suspected of inconsistency in dwelling so much on the injustice of excluding foreigners from the right of suffrage in Nebraska, and from the benefit of the Homestead Bill, which has just passed the House of Representatives. As it is, our course is consistent. We are among those who think that country largely indebted to immigration for its rapid growth and unparalleled prosperity, and that our national character is improved by the infusion of the best elements of the best race of the world. We would abide, rather than lengthen, the process of naturalization; we would adopt in the Territories the policy pursued in Wisconsin and Illinois, extending to foreign immigrants, settled therein, who have made oath or affirmation of their intention to become citizens, the right to vote and to hold office, and we would confer upon them, as upon native-born citizens, the benefits of the Homestead. Justice and common sense alike sustain such a policy. Then its adoption would be to the Bill, involved no principle, but neither would yield. It became necessary to concentrate on another candidate, and Mr. Pugh was the favored one. There is no evidence that any question was made during the canvass concerning his opinion on the Nebraska Bill; but there is evidence that the Administration members of the Legislature favorable to the Bill, voted for him, knew that he was. And they professed to be hostile to this measure—to represent honestly the hostility entertained by their constituents to this measure! Had they been sincere and honest, they would no more have voted for Mr. Pugh than for the Bill which he would have advocated, had he been in the Senate. They profess opposition to the extension of Slavery, and deliberately vote to place a nation, the United States Senate for six years, in the Missouri Compromise, and that the Missouri Compromise, and that Slavery, under the Federal Constitution, has right to protection in all territory of the United States. They know that the People of Ohio detest the opinion of the Calhoun school on the subject of slave labor, and then send to Washington as a fit representative of their sentiment, a man who is bold, strong, and consistent advocate of those principles.

As we have now an Expounder of the Constitution, we submit whether Mr. Mason has not fairly entitled himself to that position.

The People of New England cannot fail to observe the contrast between the bearing of Mr. Everett on this occasion, and that of General Houston. Mr. Everett presented the memorial—he is a New England man, and knows that the memorialists represent New England feeling. What was there in the paper which he feared to endorse? What was there not in the assault made upon it and the memorialists, to stir his blood, and to prompt a generous and an indignant reply to their assailants? He was an opportunity to recover what he had lost by his timid, half-hearted, well-timed speech against the Bill. He could do it, but he did not improve it! He assured the Senate he had not received the memorial! Not even a brief memorial on the most important occasion before him, to the spirit of his body of the English clergy, who had honored him by selecting him as their organ of communication with the Senate! One minute by the watch would have sufficed for its examination, but he had not that much time to bestow on so trivial a matter. But when the memorial, by request of certain Senators, was read, surely he could something in it to command! No—deprecations, or even a brief memorial, before the great and glorious speech of Mr. Wright; but the President did not put the question upon it. The organization of the Convention was in the hands of those who were unwilling to risk the fate of the Party, by committing it to the support of the slaves. Oppression, labor for equality of rights among men, and respects the People too much to practice imposition upon them: but that Democracy which is the handmaid of Tyranny; which has allied itself to a formidable Class Interest, with a money power equal to two hundred millions of dollars; which, under the pretense of protecting the principle of Popular Sovereignty, denies to the People the right to bounds to the extension of such an Interest; which, professing devotion to the rights of Labor, upholds a system that degrades Labor by placing it absolutely at the mercy of Capital under the heel— that Democracy which has the hardihood to send to the Senate of the United States, as a fit representative of a State consecrated to Freedom by the Ordinance of 1787, and pervaded by the Anti-Slavery sentiment, a man who holds that Ordinance to be unconstitutional, and would break down every bulwark which the wisest and best statesmen of the Republic have erected against the spread of a barbarous and accursed system—is a stupendous sham and cheat, and the question now for the People of Ohio to decide, is how much longer they intend to be the victims of.

Mr. Pugh was elected, and the Ohio Senators claimed the election as an endorsement of Douglass' Bill.

The 7th will sustain, as the Legislature has done, in his Democratic principle, and so will sustain, in his opinion of the Bill, and it was lost.

In looking over the proceedings of the House in the *Globe*, the next day, I did not observe that the motion of Mr. Wade was voted. It may have been, nevertheless; but I think not.

This was the language on one side; now hear the other.

On the 7th, in the Senate, Mr. Follett rose to a question of privilege. He wished to conciliate the impression conveyed by the rejoicing in the *Ohio Statesman*. We copy from the report of proceedings:

"I wish to call the attention of the President, to set myself right before any constituency and the country, that subject, that no such issue entered into the selection of a Senator. If such was the issue, he challenged Senators to speak out the subject, and let it be known. He knew that those who were unwilling to risk the fate of the Party, by committing it to the support of the slaves, were satisfied, for they could claim their election, when accomplished, as a triumph, while the Anti-Nebraska members would vindicate their consistency, and justify themselves to their constituents, by asserting, not that they were ignorant of Mr. Pugh's opinions, or that they were imposed upon, but that the question concerning his opinions did not enter into the election.

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